

said body and said second end of said counter springs secured to said spring attachment means for counter balancing the tension of said of said at least one of said strings wherein said base plate and said spring attachment means comprise an unitary component formed from a single folded or bent plate material with a base plate portion and a spring attachment means portion so that said unitary component is connected directly to the biasing springs.

a' Claim 41 (new) An apparatus of claim 40 wherein said string anchor means is located in said attachment means portion.

Claim 42 (new) An apparatus of claim 41 wherein said string anchor means comprises at least one string passageway within said spring attachment means portion.

Claim 43 (new) An apparatus of claim 42 wherein said base plate portion comprises string holes for threading said at least one of said strings and said at least one string passageway is aligned to said openings in said base portion.

Claim 44 (new) An apparatus of claim 40 wherein said base plate portion is formed to create at least one tier for displacing the height of at least one said bridge elements relative to said body.

Claim 45 (new) An apparatus of claim 40 wherein said tremolo is a fulcrum tremolo.

Claim 46 (new) An apparatus of claim 40 wherein said unitary component has at least one reinforcement brace arranged between said base plate portion and said spring attachment means portion.

Claim 47 (new) An apparatus of claim 46 wherein said unitary component is formed to create said at least one reinforcement brace.

Claim 48 (new) An apparatus of claim 40 wherein said tremolo includes a macro-tuner.

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Claim 49 (new) An apparatus of claim 40 wherein said tremolo includes a global-tuner.

Claim 50 (new) An apparatus of claim 45 wherein said fulcrum tremolo including bearing means for adjustably mounting said fulcrum tremolo on said body for pivotal displacement and said bearing means comprises at least a portion of a ball bearing surface.

Claim 51 (new) An apparatus of claim 42 wherein said tremolo includes a global-tuner.

Claim 52 (new) An apparatus of claim 44 wherein said tremolo includes a macro-tuner.

Claim 53 (new)      An apparatus of claim 44 wherein said tremolo includes a global-tuner.

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Claim 54 (new)      A stringed musical instrument comprising a body and a neck extending outwardly from said body, a plurality of strings extending from said body to said neck, said strings having a first end and a second end, said second end of said strings having an anchoring portion that is thicker than the diameter of said string, means for forming a first critical point for each of said strings on said neck, means for forming a second critical point for each of said strings on a fulcrum tremolo, said fulcrum tremolo includes a base plate, said base plate being pivotally mounted about a fulcrum axis extending transversely of said strings for changing the pitch of all said strings at one time as said base plate is pivoted, string anchoring means for receiving said anchoring portion located on said base, means for varying the spacing between said first and second critical points for changing the harmonic tuning, wherein the improvement comprises that at least one string anchoring means on opposite side of at least one said second critical point from said first critical point is located a critical distance from said second critical point such that said at least one string is rendered substantially inextensible between said second critical point and said string anchoring means.

Claim 55 (new) An apparatus of claim 54 wherein said anchoring portion comprise wrappings and the length of said wrappings being slightly less than the distance between the second critical point and said string anchoring means.

a1 Claim 56 (new) Tuning apparatus for a stringed musical instrument comprising a body and a neck extending outwardly from said body, a plurality of strings extending from said body to said neck, said strings having a first end and a second end, said second end of said strings having an anchoring portion that is thicker than the diameter of said string, means for forming a first critical point for each of said strings on said neck, means for forming a second critical point for each of said strings on a fulcrum tremolo, said fulcrum tremolo includes a base plate, said base plate being pivotally mounted about a fulcrum axis extending transversely of said strings for changing the pitch of all said strings at one time as said base plate is pivoted, separate means for mounting each of said strings on said base plate and for raising and adjusting the tension of said strings from an untensioned condition to a proper playing pitch including means for varying the spacing between said first and second critical points for changing the harmonic tuning, said separate means for mounting each of said strings has a bridge element forming said second critical point and a string tensioning means on opposite side of said bridge element from said first critical point disposed in a variably spaced relation to said second critical point over which each of said strings extends, wherein said string tensioning means has a string holder element, said string holder element has a first portion closer to said second critical point and a second portion

a' more remote from said second critical point, said string holder element includes a restricted interior portion located closest said first end, said string holder element means displaceable between a first limiting position closest said second critical point and a second limiting position more remote said second critical point, said first end of said string holder element means in spaced relation from said second critical point in and between said first and second limiting positions, said restricted portion of string holder element holds said string anchoring portion wherein said string anchoring portion is located a critical distance from said second critical point such that said at least one string is rendered substantially inextensible between said second critical point and said string anchoring means in said first limiting position.

Claim 57 (new)      An apparatus of claim 56 wherein said anchoring portion comprise wrappings and the length of said wrappings being slightly less than the distance between the second critical point and said string anchoring means.

a' Claim 58 (new) A stringed musical instrument comprising an elongated neck and body attached to one end of the said neck, a fulcrum tremolo, a plurality of strings with a first end and a second end, said second end of said strings having an anchoring portion that is thicker than the diameter of said string, means for forming a first critical point for each of said strings on said neck, said fulcrum tremolo including bridge elements forming a support and a second critical point for at least one of said strings, means for varying the spacing between said first and second critical points for changing the harmonic tuning, a string anchor means engaging said second end of said at least one of said strings, said fulcrum tremolo includes a base plate, said base plate being pivotally mounted about a fulcrum axis extending transversely of said strings for changing the pitch of all said strings at one time as said base plate is pivoted, a spring attachment means, counter springs with a first end and a second end, said first end of said counter springs connected to said body and said second end of said counter springs secured to said attachment means for counter balancing the tension of said of said at least one of said strings, said base plate and said attachment means comprise an unitary component formed from a single folded or bent plate material with a base plate portion and a attachment means portion so that said unitary component is connected directly to the blasing springs, said string anchor means is located in said attachment means portion, said string anchor means comprises at least one string passageway within said attachment means portion, said base plate portion comprises string holes for threading said at least one of said strings and said at least one string passageway is aligned to said openings in said base portion, wherein the improvement comprises an alternate string anchoring

means on opposite side of at least one said second critical point from said first critical point is located a critical distance from said second critical point such that said at least one string is rendered substantially inextensible between said second critical point and said string anchoring means.

a' Claim59 (new) An apparatus of claim 58 wherein said alternate string anchoring means comprises a separate means for mounting each of said strings on said base plate for raising and adjusting the tension of said strings from an untensioned condition to a proper playing, said separate means includes a string tensioning means on opposite side of said bridge element from said first critical point disposed in a variably spaced relation to said second critical point over which each of said strings extends, said string tensioning means has a string holder element, said string holder element has a first portion closer to said second critical point and a second portion more remote from said second critical point, said string holder element includes a restricted interior portion located closest said first end, said string holder element means displaceable between a first limiting position closest said second critical point and a second limiting position more remote said second critical point, said first end of said string holder element means in spaced relation from said second critical point in and between said first and second limiting positions, said restricted portion of string holder element holds said string anchoring portion wherein said string anchoring portion is located a critical distance from said second critical point such that said at least one string is rendered substantially inextensible between said second critical point and said string anchoring means in said first limiting position.